(e) what is the extent to which the , entry of HAL into civil aviation market is likely to affect the functioning of the existing airline ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLI-KARJUN) : (a) to (e) M/s Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) have no intention | of entering civil air transportation bust-ness. They have for years been manufac-turing aircraft for civil use such as HS 748, Dornier 228, etc and have been sup- ' plying components to other aircraft manu-facturers. They have recently signed a memorandum of understanding for a joint study to explore the feasibility of manu-facturing 100—130 seater passenger air-craft jointly with a Korean company and also possibly other parties.

Non-utilisation of Public Sector by armed forces

1964. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the defence forces and the armed forces Organisations have not been utilising the sources of Procurement available with Public Sector in respect of the items of their use ;

(b) whether despite repeated efforts, orders are not being placed for procurement of boots from Central Government undertakings ;

(c) whether as a result the companies under Public Sector have been adversely suffering; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLI-KARJUN): (a), (c) and (d) Instructions prevalent in the Defence Service are in line with the guidelines issued by the Department of Public Enterprises, including the one for purchase preference to Public Sector enterprises provided their quoted price is within ten percent of the lowest , technically acceptable offer.

(b) As stated in answer to Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 424 on 29 April 1993, order for boots, after booking the capacity of the Ordnance Factory at Kan-pur, have been placed in accordance with the aforesaid instructions. In the process, the Public Sector Company TAFCO has received orders acceptable to it at the price permissible under the guidelines.

Funds for replacement of INS Vikrant

1965. PROF. SAUR1N BHATTA-CHARYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Ramdas demands funds to replace INS Vikrant" as published in the Statesman dated 2nd December, 1993 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken to improve the Navy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MAL-LIKARIUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Looking to the perception of security threats at any given time, efforts are made to ensure the availability of adequate funds in order to address our concerns in this regard. The modernisation of the Indian Navy, and her force levels are considered with reference to the Perspective Plan and the Annual Plans drawn up for the purpose.

प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा सैनिक विमानों का उपयोग

1966. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय** : क्या प्रधानमंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) नवम्बर, 1993 में सम्पन्न हुए चुनावों में प्रधान मंत्री पी० वी नरसिंह राव द्वारा कुल कितने घंटे हवाई यात्रा की गई;

(ख) उसका कुल किराया कितना है; और

(ग) कुल कितनी राशि का भुगतान किया गया है और बकाया राशि को वसूल करने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है?